

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for switching active calls between entities on a network device, the method comprising:
  - 5 a) collecting information about a current call active on a first entity;
  - b) initializing a second entity;
  - c) switching the current call from the first entity to the second entity; and
  - d) releasing the first entity.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the entities are digital signal processors located within the  
10 same module.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the entities are modules located on the same card.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the entities are cards in the network device.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the method further comprises the steps of:
  - 15 a) copying compression dictionary tables from the first entity; and
  - b) loading compression tables in the second entity.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein initializing a second entity further comprises initiating a retain sequence on the second entity.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein the information about a current call includes modulation.
8. The method of claim 1 wherein the information about a current call includes country  
20 code.
9. A computer-readable medium, having contained therein software code that when executed results in:
  - 25 a) collection of information about a current call active on a first entity;
  - b) initialization of a second entity;
  - c) switching of the current call from the first entity to a second entity; and
  - d) direction of the second entity to retain and accept the current call.
10. The computer-readable medium of claim 7, wherein said medium further comprises a downloadable file.
11. The computer-readable medium of claim 7, wherein said medium further comprises an  
30 image file uploadable into a digital signal processor.
12. A network device, comprising:
  - a) at least two entities, each able to handle at least one active call;
  - b) a connector operable to connect incoming phone lines to the entities;

- c) a controller operable to switch active calls from one entity to another, thereby eliminating any active calls on the one entity.

13. The device of claim 10 wherein the controller is part of a processor located on one of the entities.

14. A network device, comprising:

- a) At least two means for handling active calls;
- b) A means for connecting the means for handling active calls with means for transmitting phone calls; and
- c) A means for switching active calls from a first means for handling active calls to another means for handling active calls, thereby eliminating any active calls on the first means for handling active calls.

15. The device of claim 14 wherein the device further comprises a modem ISDN channel aggregation device.

16. The device of claim 14 wherein the means for handling active calls further comprises digital signal processors.

17. The device of claim 14 wherein the means for handling active calls further comprise modules located on the same card.

18. The device of claim 14 wherein the means for handling active calls further comprises cards.

19. The device of claim 14 wherein the means for switching active calls further comprises a controller.